

Notes

A famous chess master from the 18th century Philidor once said that the pawns are the soul of chess. The pawn formation is a very important element of chess since the outcome of the game can depend on the good or bad arrangement of the pawns. There are three types of weak pawns:

1. Isolated pawns
2. Doubled pawns
3. Backward pawns

These pawns are considered to be weak because they cannot be defended by other pawns and are good targets of our opponent's attack.

An isolated pawn is a pawn that has no friendly pawns on the adjacent files. It is all alone and cannot be protected by any other pawn. That is the reason why it can easily become a target. Isolated pawns often become even weaker in the endgame since there are not that many pieces left to protect them.

Doubled pawns are two pawns of the same color that are placed on the same file. Since they are placed on the same file, they cannot protect each other and one of the pawns is restricting the free movement of the other one.

A backward pawn is a pawn that's placed behind the pawns of the same color on the adjacent files and cannot be safely advanced. Backward pawns are considered a positional disadvantage because they cannot be defended by other pawns and are good targets.